



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL



SUM GALLERY

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CANADA

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**For Immediate Release: SUM gallery presents SD Holman's *Pas-à-pas - not intent on arriving***

**Vancouver BC, Feb 28, 2023** | SUM gallery (#425-268 Keefer St.), Canada's Queer-mandated art gallery, presents *Pas-à-pas - not intent on arriving*, a new photo-based multidisciplinary meditation on mourning & memory by **SD Holman**, April 1 to June 2. The artist will be in attendance to introduce their exhibition at the opening reception at SUM on April 1 from 5 to 7pm. *Pas-à-pas - not intent on arriving* derives from Holman's walk across Canada following the death of their wife Catherine White Holman. For this exhibition Holman collaborates with SUM gallery curator Mark Takeshi McGregor; writer Persimmon Blackbridge, who works with words from Holman's travel journal; and pianist Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa, whose performance of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* acts as an organizing principle.

*I don't like walking. I needed to walk out my door & keep walking. You died in a plane crash. I couldn't make sense of it. I walked for 3 months / 2700 km. I took a little G11 (not my pro camera or 4x5). I made 8,000 images—99 videos—30,000 words. These are some of them.*

*There is no arc to this story. I did not come out of it healed.*

*We all grieve. I later learned that the grieving often go on walking pilgrimages. Walk. Breathe. Think. Don't think. Circle. Repeat. Step. By step. Try to change the outcome as you move over unfamiliar terrain. Different and the same. No epic Canadian landscapes here, instead tiny human steps cycling endlessly in an intimate vista. – SD Holman*



Image: SD Holman, *Day 16 Walking*, 2023

About **SD Holman** [sdholman.com](http://sdholman.com)

SD Holman is an award-winning artist and curator born in Hollywood, California. Described as “visionary” by curator/scholar Jonathan Katz, Holman is a graduate of ECUAD Vancouver Canada, laureate of the YWCA Women of Distinction Award, and Founding Artistic Director Emeritus of the multidisciplinary QAF+SUM gallery. Defining as a participant observer employing subjective conceptual documentary practice, Holman’s approach to photography is conflicted and perverse. Holman’s work deals in paradox: the cognitive dissonance between estrangement and recognition, aversion and attraction, harshness and beauty, bravura and restraint, outrageousness and subtlety, expressionism and classicism. Holman embraces Indeterminacy to open artistic practice to the random and radically break from tradition, convention, and habit.

Holman’s work has exhibited internationally including at Wellesley College, Amherst College, CLGA ArQuives (Toronto), the Advocate Gallery (Los Angeles), the Soady-Campbell Gallery (New York), the San Francisco Public Library, On Main Gallery, The Helen Pitt International Gallery, Charles H. Scott, Exposure, Gallery Gachet, the Roundhouse, Vancouver East Cultural Centre, Artropolis, and Fotobase Galleries (Vancouver). Holman’s portrait project *BUTCH: Not like the other girls* toured North America and is in its second print edition, published by Caitlin Press, Dagger Editions. Studio Q, Holman’s notorious DTES Art Salon in Vancouver’s Chinatown, was featured in *Secrets of the City* (1st edition).



Image: SD Holman, *Day 4 Self Portrait*, 2023

About **SUM gallery** [sumgallery.ca](http://sumgallery.ca)

One of the only permanent spaces worldwide dedicated to the presentation of Queer art, SUM gallery brings diverse communities together to support artistic risk-taking, incite creative collaboration and experimentation, and celebrate the rich heritage of Queer artists and art. As the year-round programming arm of the Queer Arts Festival, SUM produces, presents and exhibits challenging, thought-provoking multidisciplinary art that pushes boundaries and initiates dialogue.

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